NOTICE: New Name – New Format

This will replace the Informational Bulletin from the Bureau of Home Health and Hospice Standards

Bureau talk

Missouri Department of Health
Bureau of Home Care and Rehabilitative Standards

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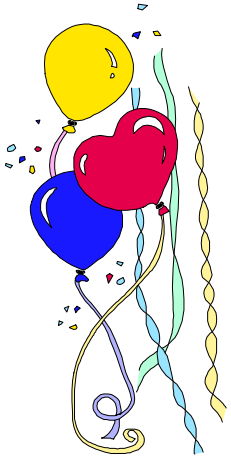
THIS INFORMATION NEEDS TO BE DIRECTED TO THE MANAGEMENT STAFF OF YOUR AGENCY



New Name

As you can see from the above heading, our bureau has recently undergone changes that resulted in a name change. The Bureau of Home Health and Hospice Standards will become the **Bureau of Home Care and Rehabilitative Standards**. The name change was initiated because of increased responsibilities for the bureau, however; we remain the same staff with no new additions. As of October 1, 1999, all correspondence from our office will be under the "new" name.

Hospice and the Nursing Home

Please remember when a hospice patient resides in a nursing home, all care and procedures that are appropriate for in-home patients also apply to that nursing home patient. As a special note: When a nursing home patient expires, the same process for recording drug disposal should be followed. Record what was done with the patient's medications just as you would for the in-home patient.

OASIS Update

We are in the transmission phase of OASIS reporting. Letters have been mailed to Medicare home health providers, who have not yet completed a transmission of OASIS data, requesting a compliance plan by Sept. 30th. After that date, our bureau will be issuing deficiencies for non-transmission of data. **Congratulations** are in order to you as providers for the willingness to comply with the new Medicare OASIS regulations. This is a difficult time for providers and OASIS has been complicated to implement – but the majority of Missouri providers have complied!

Privacy Act Statement

The Privacy Act Statement form should also become a part of your agency's admission packet. There is a form for both Medicare patients and other payor source patients.

Survey Activity

Home visits during a survey can now be done with any payor source patients, not just Medicare/Medicaid patients.

Home Health Advance Beneficiary Notice

Be sure to add the new Home Health Advance Beneficiary Notice to your admission packets for Medicare patients as directed by HCFA. This will apply to Medicare patients only and not to other payor sources. However, we will continue to look for financial responsibility information for all patients of the agency as part of the survey process. This relates to patients' right to be informed, in advance, about the care to be furnished, and of any changes in the care to be furnished. Also the right to be advised, orally and in writing, before care is initiated, of the extent to which payment may be required from the patient.

Home Health Statute

The Bureau, Missouri Alliance for Home Care, the Home Health Advisory Council, representatives from Medicaid Medical Services home health program are currently in the initial phase of developing a home care statute. We will be requesting your input in the near future. This is a huge undertaking and will require coordination from everyone involved.

Pharmacy Rules

Please watch for publication of an Order of Rulemaking by Missouri Board of Pharmacy amending Pharmacy Standards of Operations. This rule relates to drugs carried by home care and hospice nurses that was currently a Board policy. It will include a provision for carrying vaccines for influenza, pneumonia and TB testing. We will mail a copy of this new rule when published in final form.

OPTs and CORFs

We are new in directing the survey activity for both the OPTs and CORFs in Missouri. We will continue to learn together. Please call our office for information or if you have questions about your facility. 573-751-6336.